

• Abroad •

Geneva. Some military analysts, meditating on last autumn's nuclear tests by Russia, have arrived at the following chain of reasoning. 1) The purpose of the tests was obviously—and admittedly—military. 2) The very large-yield explosions and the very high altitudes (up to 100 miles) at which these were carried out cannot be explained by the military motives generally assumed to be involved—i.e., development of small size missile warheads, and of low yield and flexible tactical devices. 3) The Russians have much the most powerful rocket launching capacity, and have all along concentrated on the ability to throw large, heavy objects into space. 4) An explosion of high yield (150 or more megatons) from 200 or so miles above a nation would devastate a large area. 5) A large vehicle could be placed into an orbit that would take it 200 miles above the United States or Western Europe, could carry a 150+ megaton bomb, and could remain in such an orbit for an indefinite time. 6) The fact that the vehicle was carrying a bomb could not be detected. 7) Such a bomb in orbit could be set off at will by an electronic order from a ground station with no warning whatever, and thus no possibility of defensive counter-action, even if anti-missiles are successfully developed.

London. Left-wing opposition to Britain's entry into the Common Market is getting up steam. The crucial objection is explained by Barbara Castle, long a leader of the Labor Party's Left, in the March 30 *New Statesman*. "Are Socialist planning and public ownership incompatible with the Common Market?" she asks in her first sentence. After a detailed analysis of the "basic principles of the [Common Market] Treaty, such as the free movement of goods, labor and capital," she concludes: Yes. The Common Market, she finds, "lags behind" the "social thinking" even of British Conservative governments. Under its aegis, "the process of clearing the decks for the free play of competition is proceeding fast." As it continues, there could be at most only modest "indicative planning" by government. "The task of nationalization would become well-nigh impossible."

Taipei. It is estimated that there are today 15,700,000 "overseas Chinese"—a figure 50% higher than the total population of Taiwan. More than 15 million live in Asia—mostly in the large and strategically crucial seaport cities—and about half a million live in the Americas. The Free Chinese government does its best to keep close and active relations with this very important community. Nine thousand overseas Chinese students are currently studying in Taiwan's schools and colleges.

Florence. From March 11-15, under the patronage of Florence's fellow-traveling saint, Mayor Giorgio La Pira, 300 influential European writers from both sides of the Iron Curtain met in the Palazzo Vecchio to complete organization of the "European Writers' Community." This

new united front, proposed to Italian President Gronchi during his 1958 Moscow visit, was initiated by him on his return. Last month's meeting was attended by large delegations from Russia and the east European satellites, exile Spanish and Portuguese writers, and writers of all Leftist shades from the other west European nations. Among them were Jean-Paul Sartre, John Lehmann, Nobel Prize winner Salvatore Quasimodo and Alberto Moravia. The Italian poet, Ungaretti, was elected President. Sartre, supported by the eastern and exile delegates, was elected Vice President over Britisher John Lehmann.



Bernie, Aux Ecoutes, Paris
"They must have proclaimed a 'cease fire'!"

Nairobi. In spite of more favorable preparatory conditions, many observers believe that British East Africa will be plunged into Congo-like confusion as the various parts head rapidly into independence. The Kenya constitutional conference in London is now on the verge of breakdown over essentially the same issue that divided Léopoldville and Elisabethville. KANU (Kenya African National Union), the largest party, with Jomo Kenyatta, Tom Mboya and Oginga Odinga among its leaders, and the big Kikuyu tribe (mother of Mau Mau) as primary mass base, is the "Lumumbist" tendency, demanding a centralized government with a fairly far-Left program. KADU (Kenya African Democratic Union), supported by a number of rival tribes, with Ronald Ngala as best known leader, wants a federal system and a more moderate program. Already-independent Tanganyika and self-governing Uganda show that the passion for all-out Africanization is likely to wreck administrative services and drive out both white residents and European capital.

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